

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIEP-02 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 INT-08 SCI-06 FEA-02 IO-14 OIC-04 DRC-01

USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 SAM-01 EURE-00 AEC-11 AECE-00 NEA-11

/171 W

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O R 061821Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7759

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 LONDON 01700

NOFORN

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: ENERGY: COMMUNITY PREPARATIONS FOR ENERGY

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CONFERENCE

REF: (A) BRUSSELS EC 750; (B) BRUSSELS EC 749;
(C) LONDON 1550

SUMMARY: LEONARD WILLIAMS, DEPUTY SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, WHO WAS MEMBER UK DEL TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FEBRUARY 5, HAS CLARIFIED CERTAIN POINTS IN EC MANDATE (REF B). WILLIAMS SAID THAT WHILE EC WAS OPPOSED TO CREATION OF PERMANENT MACHINERY BY WASHINGTON CONFERENCE, VIRTUALLY ALL OF COMMUNITY, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FRANCE, COULD ACCEPT ESTABLISHMENT OF "TEMPORARY" MACHINERY TO FOLLOW UP CONFERENCE DECISIONS. BRITISH AT LEAST BELIEVE SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF WASHINGTON CONFERENCE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL WOULD BE DESIRABLE IN SIX MONTHS' TIME. HOWEVER, UK FAVORS MOST DETAILED FOLLOW-UP BEING CARRIED OUT BY ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND BELIEVES MEETING WITH CONSUMERS, PRODUCERS AND SOME LDC'S SHOULD BE CONVENED UNDER OECD AUSPICES. WILLIAMS CONFIRMED WRIGHT'S (FCO) STATEMENT TO US FEBRUARY 1 THAT EC POSITION WOULD NOT PREVENT INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS FROM GOING FURTHER THAN MINIMAL COMMON POSITION EXPRESSED BY MANDATE, IF THEY WISHED TO DO SO. END SUMMARY

1. FEBRUARY 6 WE CALLED ON LEONARD WILLIAMS, DEPUTY SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, WHO WAS MEMBER OF UK DEL TO FEBRUARY 5 SESSION COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND WILL BE MEMBER OF UK DEL TO WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE. WILLIAMS SAID THAT DURING AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 4, FRENCH DELEGATION TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAD CIRCULATED "EXTREMELY NEGATIVE" DRAFT OF EC POSITION IN WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE, THE EFFECT OF WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN TO PRESERVE THE FREEDOM OF ACTION OF THE NINE ALMOST TOTALLY. THIS PAPER RECEIVED LITTLE SUPPORT FROM REMAINING EIGHT MEMBERS WHICH LED SCHEEL TO ASK FOR A COMMISSION DRAFT WHICH WASESENTIALLY THE SAME AS THE "MANDATE" ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL AFTER, WILLIAMS SAID, CONSIDERABLE TIME HAD BEEN WASTED ATTACKING THE FRENCH DRAFT. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. WILLIAMS COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS ON THE PRINCIPAL POINTS. FIRST, HE SAID, IT WOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE TO US TO LEARN THAT THE EC FAVORS MAKING USE OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE OECD. HE COMMENTED IN PASSING THAT FOR THIS PURPOSE ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE OECD WOULD NEED STRENGTHENING.

3. THE COMMUNITY WAS OF THE OPINION THAT THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE SHOULD NOT ACT NOW TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT MACHINERY. THE FRENCH HAD OBJECTED TO A SECOND PLENARY MEETING, TO THE USE OF WORKING GROUPS DURING THE CONFERENCE AND TO ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE AFTER THE CONFERENCE. THE FRENCH HAD BEEN OVERRIDDEN ON THE USE OF WORKING GROUPS BUT THE COUNCIL HAD AGREED THAT PERMANENT MACHINERY SHOULD NOT BE ESTABLISHED. WILLIAMS COMMENTED THAT THE U.S. WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY IN PRESERVING THE IDEA OF A TASK FORCE TO FOLLOW UP ON CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS. HE THOUGHT THE U.S. COULD SELL AN INFORMAL FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM, DESPITE FRENCH OPPOSITION. HE THOUGHT FRENCH OPPOSITION MIGHT FIND SOME SUPPORT, DEPENDING ON THE WAY THE MATTER WAS PUT FROM FOUR OR FIVE OTHER COUNTRIES.

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INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIEP-02 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 INT-08 SCI-06 FEA-02 IO-14 OIC-04

DRC-01 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 SAM-01 AEC-11 AECE-00 NEA-11 /171 W

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O R 061821Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7760

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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THE BRITISH COULD ACCEPT INFORMAL FOLLOW-UP MACHINERY
AND IN FACT DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
THE CONFERENCE COULD BE REALIZED WITHOUT IT.

4. WITH REGARD TO A SECOND PLENARY SESSION, THE COUNCIL
DECISION WAS NOT CLEAR CUT. HOWEVER, THE BRITISH
BELIEVE A SECOND SESSION WILL BE NECESSARY TO "ROUND
OFF" THE DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE.

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5. THE COUNCIL WAS OPPOSED TO A PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
MEETING ON FEBRUARY 8. THE U.K. AGREED RELUCTANTLY
TO REQUESTING POSTPONEMENT UNTIL THE 10TH BUT DID NOT
WISH TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF THIS MATTER WHICH AROSE VERY
LATE IN THE COUNCIL SESSION. THE BRITISH ARE
FULLY AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THERE IS VERY LITTLE
TIME BETWEEN THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING ON THE
10TH AND THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION ON THE 11TH.

6. WILLIAMS SAID THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EC WISH THE
MEETING TO END ON THE 12TH IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE
FOREIGN MINISTERS TO MEET IN BONN IN THE POLITICAL
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK ON THE 14TH. WILLIAMS COMMENTED
THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF A MEETING BETWEEN THE NINE
AND THE PRODUCERS WAS ON THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING
IN BONN, WHICH HE TERMED MOST UNFORTUNATE TIMING.

7. THE BRITISH WOULD PREFER TO SEE CONTACT MADE
BY CONSUMERS WITH PRODUCERS IN THE PRESENCE OF A
FEW SELECTED LDC'S UNDER OECD AUSPICES, BUT SAID THIS
MATTER WAS BARELY TOUCHED ON IN THE COUNCIL
SESSION.

8. WILLIAMS CHARACTERIZED THE COUNCIL SESSION AS
"EXTREMELY DIFFICULT." THE FRENCH DID NOT WISH THE
FREEDOM OF ACTION OF THE NINE LIMITED IN ANY
WAY AND, AS WILLIAMS COMMENTED, THE COUNCIL "FAILED TO
RISE TO THE OCCASION."

9. WILLIAMS SAID THE COUNCIL MANDATE WAS A "MINIMUM
POSITION" WHICH WOULD NOT PREVENT ANY GOVERNMENT FROM

GOING FURTHER THAN THE POSITION IF IT SO WISHED.

10. WILLIAMS SAID THAT FOR ITS PART THE BRITISH BELIEVED THAT MORE MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED IN TWO DAYS OF PLENARY SESSIONS INSTEAD OF DIVIDING THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE AMONG WORKING GROUPS. IN THE SHORT SPACE OF TIME AVAILABLE, WILLIAMS SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE WORKING GROUPS COULD COME TO ANY USEFUL SUBSTANTIVE CONCLUSIONS, BUT THAT AGREEMENT ON A GENERAL OUTLINE OF WORK TO BE DONE WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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FACILITATED IF THE TOTAL RESOURCES OF EACH DELEGATION WERE CONCENTRATED IN PLENARY SESSION. WILLIAMS COMMENTED THAT THIS WILL BE ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS SIR JACK RAMPTON, PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, WILL RAISE IN TWO DAYS OF CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 7-8. (WILLIAMS SAID RAMPTON'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN ADVANCE OF CONFERENCE WAS NOT KNOWN BY REMAINING EIGHT MEMBERS OF EC. PLEASEST PROTECT. SIMILARLY, WILLIAMS AND TAYLOR (ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY, FCO),WHO WERE TO HAVE BEEN UK REPS FROM LONDON AT PREPCOM MEETING FEBRUARY 8 WILL TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON ON FEBRUARY 8

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PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 SAM-01 AEC-11 AECE-00 NEA-11 /171 W

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O R 061821Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7761

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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IN ORDER TO BE AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATIONS FEBRUARY 9.
PLEASE PROTECT.).

11. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OFFICIALS ON DELEGATION WILL
NOW BE SIR JACK RAMPTON, KCB, PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY;
LEONARD WILLIAMS AND JOHN G. LIVERMAN, CB, OBE,
DEPUTY SECRETARIES. ONE OF THE REASONS RAMPTON HAS
BEEN ADDED TO DELEGATION IS TO PROVIDE FOR POSSIBILITY
THAT LORD CARRINGTON, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY,
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WILL BE PREVENTED FROM COMING AT LAST MINUTE BY
DECISION TO CALL GENERAL ELECTION. WILLIAMS SAID THAT
WHILE MINERS' STRIKE WOULD NOT PREVENT CARRINGTON'S
PARTICIPATION, CALLING FOR AN ELECTION ALMOST CERTAINLY
WOULD.

12. THUS, IT NOW APPEARS THAT SENIOR LEVELS OF UK
DEL WILL BE :

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME

LORD CARRINGTON

SIR JACK RAMPTON, KCB, PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY

OLIVER WRIGHT

LEONARD WILLIAMS

JOHN G. LIVERMAN, CB, OBE, DEPUTY SECRETARY

13. FINAL RANKING WILL HAVE TO AWAIT DECISION OF HMG
REGARDING MAKE-UP OF DELEGATION.

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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